CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutical composition for sustained release, said composition comprising a water soluble salt of fluvastatin as active ingredient and being selected from the group comprising matrix formulations, diffusion-controlled membrane coated formulations; and combinations thereof.

2. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the said water soluble salt of fluvastatin is the sodium salt.

3. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2 which is an eroding matrix formulation.

4. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 wherein the matrix material is selected from the group comprising polyethylene oxide, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose and paraffin.

5. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2 which is a non-eroding matrix formulation.

6. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 wherein the matrix material is selected from the group comprising xanthane and polyvinylchloride.

7. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2 which is a diffusion-controlled membrane coated formulation.

8. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the material for film formation is selected from the group comprising ethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose and hydoxypropyl cellulose.

9. A pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8 for use in the treatment of hypercholesterolemia.

10. The use of a water soluble salt of fluvastatin for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for sustained release, for the treatment of hypercholesterolemia.

11. The use according to claim 10 wherein the said pharmaceutical composition is selected from the group comprising matrix formulations, diffusion-controlled membrane coated formulations; and combinations thereof.

12. A method for the treatment of hypercholesterolemia comprising administering to a mammal, including man, a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition for sustained release, comprising a water soluble salt of fluvastatin.

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein the said pharmaceutical composition is selected from the group comprising matrix formulations, diffusion-controlled membrane coated formulations; and combinations thereof.